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**NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD**  
**WASHINGTON, D.C.**

**LETTER - LEVEL 3 PILOT ENGLISH TEST**

**(1 page)**

**KOREAN AIR LEVEL 3 PILOT ENGLISH TEST**

Captain Park Yong-Chul, First Officer Song Kyung-Ho, and Flight Engineer Nam Suk-Hoon have all passed the Level 3 Pilot English test, as all Korean Air pilots must. The test is normally administered shortly after employment. A failure on any portion of the test results in retraining and retesting.

The Level 3 Pilot English test consists of three sections—written, listening, and oral. The written test mainly evaluates reading comprehension and vocabulary. A minimum score of 60% is required to pass. The Listening Comprehension portion consists of both general English (40%) and ATC English (60%). The general English portion tests listening comprehension in situations the flight crew would likely encounter while traveling, including job-related situations outside the cockpit. The ATC portion tests correct understanding and proper usage of ATC transmissions, ATIS broadcasts, ATC terminology/phraseology, and so on. A minimum passing score of 80% is required for this portion of the test. During the Oral test each examinee is asked a series of general and job-related questions by a native English speaker. The responses are graded based on question comprehension, pronunciation, sentence structure, proper vocabulary usage, and fluency. The test normally lasts ten minutes. The successful candidate should be able to explain his job functions, state basic opinions, provide factual information, and respond appropriately to follow-up questions requiring greater detail.

  
Hur Shin-yul  
General Manager

Korean Air Foreign Language Testing Team

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